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Missouri Department of Transportation

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*Release available @
www.modot.org*

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Rehabilitation of Glasgow Bridge Moving Forward

MACON – The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) has compiled a summary of comments provided by citizens of Glasgow and the surrounding communities regarding the proposed improvements to the Missouri River Bride at Glasgow.

The comments, generated from individual meetings initiated by MoDOT with elected state, county and city officials, local business owners, and the nearly 200 citizens who attended two public meetings; recognized the need for improvements to this structure. Additionally, the majority of the public comments supported the partial replacement alternative. This innovative and cost-effective solution would require closure of the bridge for a period of nine to twelve months.

The primary concern expressed by citizens related to the anticipated economic impacts resulting from closure of the structure. These impacts included increased time and expense for travel to work and school, additional expenses related to agricultural production, and loss of business within the City of Glasgow and surrounding communities caused by a reduction in travel across the river. Many comments suggested that some sort of alternative transportation solution be provided.

MoDOT recognizes and understands the affect the closure will have on the community, but believes the bridge condition requires quick action. Four viable options for transporting travelers have been identified and are still being pursued; however, funding and procurement for these options are issues that remain to be resolved. The options still under consideration include a ferry service, rail service, shuttle service and amphibious vehicle service. Funding for these alternative transportation solutions is not included in the project budget.

MoDOT has been working with elected officials, the City of Glasgow and various business leaders within the community to explore options for funding, but has thus far been unable to identify viable sources. As soon as the Federal Highway Administration has approved the partial rehabilitation, MoDOT intends to proceed with project development to the point of opening bids from contractors in late September. The bids will be compared to the project budget to determine whether the project can move forward and whether sufficient funds remain to pay for one of the transportation solutions identified above. MoDOT will remain in close contact with the community leaders and elected officials as these decisions are being considered.

For more information contact the MoDOT District 2 Customer Service Center toll-free at 1-888-ASK MoDOT (275-6636). The center is open Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or visit our website at <http://www.modot.org/northcentral>.